

## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. An inventory control device comprising:

a latch positioned in relation to an access device of a data storage system so that opening the access device causes the latch to move from a first position to a second position;

a sensor to sense a latch state indicating the position of the latch; and  
control logic communicatively coupled to the sensor, to cause the data storage system to inventory one or more storage locations associated with the access device if the sensor indicates the latch is in the second position and to cause the data storage system to not inventory the one or more storage locations if the sensor indicates the latch is in the first position.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the access device comprises a data storage drawer.

3. The device of claim 2, wherein the storage locations comprise data cartridge locations within the data storage drawer.

4. The device of claim 1, further comprising an actuator to move the latch from the second position to the first position, the control logic to cause the actuator to move the latch from the second position to the first position.

5. The device of claim 4, wherein the actuator comprises a solenoid.

6. The device of claim 1, wherein the sensor comprises an optical interrupter.

7. A method comprising:

obtaining a position of a latch, the position of the latch indicating if an access device of a data storage system was opened while the data storage system was shut down;

causing the data storage system to perform an inventory on one or more storage locations associated with the access device if the position of the latch indicates the access device was opened; and

causing the data storage system to not perform the inventory on the one or more storage locations if the position of the latch indicates the access device was not opened.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising if the position of the latch indicates the access device was opened, causing the latch to return to the position indicating the access device was not opened.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein obtaining the position of the latch comprises obtaining a latch state indicating the position of the latch by means of a sensor.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the access device comprises a data storage drawer.

11. An inventory control device comprising:

latch means positioned in relation to an access device means of a data storage system means so that opening the access device causes the latch means to move from a first position to a second position;

sensing means to sense a latch state indicating the position of the latch;  
and

logic means communicatively coupled to sensing means, to cause the data storage system means to inventory one or more storage locations associated with the access device means if the latch state indicates the latch means is in the second position.

12. The inventory control device of claim 11, further comprising actuator means to move the latch means from the second position to the first position, the logic means to cause the actuator means to move the latch from the second position to the first position.

13. The inventory control device of claim 11, wherein the logic means is further to cause the data storage system means to not inventory the one or more storage location means if the latch state indicates the latch means is in the first position.

14. A data storage system comprising:

an access device;

a plurality of data cartridges disposed in the access device;

a mechanical device moveable between first and second positions, the mechanical device positioned in relation to the access device so that opening the access device causes the mechanical device to change position; and

control logic coupled to the mechanical device, to sense movement of the mechanical device and to initiate inventory of the data cartridges if the position of the mechanical device indicates the access device was opened while the data storage system was shut down.

15. The data storage system of claim 14, wherein the mechanical device comprises a latch.

16. The data storage system of claim 14, further comprising a flag positioned in relation to the access device so that at least partially opening the access device causes the flag to contact the mechanical device and move the mechanical device from the first position to the second position.